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CONTENTS

A REPORT ON A BRIEF VISIT TO THE NEAR EAST	1
A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ACLS NEAR EASTERN TRANSLATION PROGRAM	5
HUMAN RESOURCES IN THE HUMANITIES	7
PROBLEMS OF PUBLISHING	9
NEW TRANSLATIONS FROM THE RUSSIAN	12
FIRST-YEAR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM	13
ACLS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS	15
ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON SOUTHERN ASIA BY COUNCILS	19

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A REPORT ON A BRIEF VISIT TO THE NEAR EAST

By MORTIMER GRAVES

In the period between October 1948 and June 1949 I spent three months in Turkey (Istanbul and Ankara), about six weeks each in Syria and the Lebanon (Aleppo, Beirut, and Damascus), and about eight weeks in Egypt (Alexandria and Cairo). The purpose of the sojourn was to lay the basis for a development of Near Eastern studies in the United States by reaching some conclusions as to the character of study demanded by American needs and by becoming acquainted with the personnel, the institutions, and the instrumentalities with which cooperation will be necessary in the process.

Accordingly I visited all the universities in the area: Istanbul University, Ankara University, American University and the Université Saint-Joseph in Beirut, Syrian National University in Damascus, Farouk University in Alexandria, and Fuad I and American Universities in Cairo, as well as Robert College and several other American schools, numerous national schools and institutes, learned and scientific societies, research institutions, libraries and museums, and I talked with and listened to as many scholars and educational administrators, newspaper-men and publicists, authors, government officials, and interested persons as I found willing to submit to this ordeal. I made about twenty addresses, hardly to be dignified as speeches though on some occasions they exceeded an hour in length, before audiences up to three hundred people, usually on the organization of science and scholarship in the United States. A carbon copy of my daily diary was currently mailed to the Executive Offices and is there on deposit for reference.

A visit to the Near East at the present time is a depressing experience. Unless the traveller from happier countries has his eyes so firmly fixed on the remains of past grandeurs that he cannot see the present, he must be appalled by the aggravated form in which almost every problem known to man - political, social, economic, intellectual, and religious - presents itself. Even more disheartening is the general public apathy towards these problems, witnessed

most recently by the almost complete lack of public concern over successive palace revolutions in Syria. This apathy is born of the realization that small power of solution rests with the people themselves, that problems of this magnitude cannot be solved without commensurate assistance from outside, and that this outside help will not be offered with the knowledge and understanding that are imperative if the people of the Near East are to be maximally benefitted by it.

These facts add the element of time urgency to what might otherwise be only the scientific desirability of developing our machinery for reaching this knowledge and understanding. Doubtless America will give help to the Near East, and magnificently, but if it is ununderstanding help conditioned by current American ignorance of the area and its peoples, it will be worse than none at all. Near Eastern studies at the moment are practical studies of first order.

Substantial study of the Near East is already firmly imbedded in the American academic tradition, almost entirely at the level of history, philology, and archaeology; with respect to these the problem is one of expansion, of building upon an already assured foundation, not one of creation. That which has to be created almost from the beginning is a concern with modern Near Eastern phenomena comparable in its searching quality and its scientific validity with our already existing study of earlier periods. Adequate scholarship of this kind exists nowhere; no pattern for our guidance lies ready to hand. Even for the comprehension of our own society in these terms we have not yet forged the tools nor elaborated the methods. When we add to this lack of implements the difficulty of finding our way inside a culture expressed in languages not common in our academic experience and the culmination of a historical tradition divergent from our own, it will be seen that the task we pose for ourselves is a formidable one. Nothing is to be gained through adding to the difficulty by setting modern studies against ancient studies in any competitive sense; each needs the other, and progress means their both moving forward together in harmony on a wide front.

In the attempt to understand the Near East, especially on a humanistic basis, that is to say at the level of participation with its own best thinking respecting its problems and the world's, we can, unfortunately, count upon but little help from the Near East itself. It is true that many Near

Easterners are articulate about their problems, and even in West European languages, but the conditions under which the thinker has to work lend themselves to individual emotional expression rather than to combined analytic scientific formulation and search for solutions. The academic structure is young and weak. Half a dozen struggling universities have upon their shoulders a task which twenty good ones could barely perform. The burden of undergraduate education is so great that advanced study and research - especially in the modern humanities which for our purpose are most important - are almost unknown. Moreover, the extreme concern with the sciences and technologies characteristic of backward educational systems all but precludes those introspective and interpretive studies which would lead to the kind of understanding we need.

One is first struck in the Near East by the multiplicity of tensions - Turk versus Arab, Arab versus Jew, the jarring sects, the numerous petty, weak, and jealous states, the struggle of imperialisms both moribund and emergent. These cause one to wonder what there is of cohesion which might make the term Near East something other than a geographical expression. The experience of the League of Arab States would suggest that Arabism by itself is not enough, at least not enough to prevail against conflicting political ambitions, though the story of the Arab League is not yet fully told. Nor is there much evidence that economic needs, pressing as they are, are a sufficient impetus towards union. The threat of aggression from abroad might dissolve mutual distrust in shared fears, but the grains of salt with which the Near Easterner takes the most highly advertised of these, that of the Soviet Union, are as the sands of the seashore. He distrusts his own government as much as any and has discovered that he never meets this threat unadulterated with other considerations. There remains Islam.

In those parts of the Near East which I visited, Islam either as a form of religion or as a social and political organization is on the defensive, in general able to express itself only in anachronous or destructive manifestations or as a front for other political aspirations. In the search for a new political structure, no present movement looks like a serious accommodation between Islam and the modern world, though lip-service is frequently paid to this concept. This search is the most important single problem before the Near East today. The amorphous, accidental, anarchic

democracy which happens to suit us and our historical tradition offers little hope to the Arabic-Islamic world; the attempt to transfer it is usually but the prelude to tyranny. Doubtless there will in time be evolved some more corporative, authoritarian, socialized form of state appropriate to the Arab experience, but its outlines are not at present obvious. Progress towards this end is hampered by the facts that the only model now before the Near Eastern people is in the extreme form of the U.S.S.R., and that even this is tied to an imperialism of the same character as that from which they conceive themselves now to be escaping. The Turks believe, and proclaim perhaps a little too vociferously for the comfort of their neighbors, that their own political evolution is in advance of any other in the region, and while the present Turkish result is not to be accepted with unrestrained enthusiasm, it probably does lay down the principal lines along which future progress will take place.

Fortunately for me, and perhaps for the world, it is not my task to propose solutions for the Near East's problems but only to make some contribution towards constructing the apparatus by which Americans may come better to understand them, and through and with the understanding to aid in their solution. To this end I have presented to our Committee on Near Eastern Studies a longer report embracing some suggestions for a program of development of these studies in the United States. These are now under discussion within the Committee and doubtless, fortified by its knowledge and experience, will in time appear in these pages as another program of the Council for the further development of scientific scholarship and its employment for practical ends.

Kerr Report on University Presses. We are sorry to announce that the supply which we had for distribution has been exhausted. A digest of the Report has, however, been printed by the University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma. This may be obtained from the University of Oklahoma Press at 25 cents per copy, postpaid when payment is enclosed with the order or postage extra on account.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE ACLS NEAR EASTERN TRANSLATION PROGRAM

By PHILIP K. HITTI

This Program envisages the translation into English and the publication of a relatively small number of highly selected books, pamphlets, and articles originally published in Arabic, Turkish, and Persian,¹ so chosen as to give readers of English an insight into the best thinking of the leaders of Near Eastern thought so far as it is reflected in such literature. Literature is, of course, defined to include not only belles-lettres, but also, and perhaps predominantly, works in the humanities and social sciences. The program takes its general tone from the Council's similar Russian Translation Program, and builds upon the experience of this earlier enterprise.

The first few months have been taken up with a canvass of persons known or supposed to be interested in such a program, whether as participants or as advisers, for the purpose of compiling a list of possible translators and beginning the process of determining the titles which lend themselves most suitably to translation for the purposes of the Program. As a preliminary step announcements were sent to more than a hundred and fifty such persons, practically all in the United States and Great Britain. The almost complete and exceedingly gratifying response exceeded our expectations and gives evidence of the importance of the enterprise, at least in the eyes of the scholarly group immediately concerned. Indeed, the difficulty now is that the Program has received this large amount of information before it is staffed to give it adequate attention. This process is now proceeding; to date the following figures have been recorded: proposed translators from Arabic, 67, from Turkish, 42, from Persian, 17, with a scattering of Hebrew, Armenian, and Georgian. The list of titles suggested, most

1. The terms of the subvention under which this work is to be carried on enumerate only these three major languages. There is every expectation, however, that in the long run work can be done also in the other significant languages of the Near East; personnel information and suggested titles are consequently being gathered with respect to all the other pertinent Near Eastern languages.

of them by more than one person, now comprises 117 in Arabic (mostly Egyptian), 56 in Turkish, and 11 in Persian, though all of the material in hand has not yet been digested.

These results come from a canvass of the United States and Great Britain; some additions will doubtless accrue as soon as we consult scholars in other European countries, especially France, Italy, and Spain. No such canvass of the Near East itself has been made, but Mortimer Graves, the Administrative Secretary of the Council and its liaison officer with the Committee on Near Eastern Studies, gathered on his recent journey to Turkey, Syria, the Lebanon, and Egypt, a similar quantity of information which is now being incorporated into the records of the Program.

With this basic information, the next step is testing the possible translators, a process which the experience of the Russian Program has shown to be imperative. The method is to procure from the translator a translation of an article, and then to discuss his translation with him in detail. For this purpose we are now having surveyed the significant periodical literature which has appeared in the Near Eastern countries during the last three or four years and compiling a list of articles on literary criticism, surveys, etc., which will both be appropriate to the purposes of testing and serve as sources of additional information for the Program. As this list is compiled, practically all those who have answered the questionnaire will be asked to participate in this testing phase. Meanwhile, all suggested titles are being carefully examined in the attempt to narrow the selection to those which can be advantageously undertaken immediately. It is hoped that these two operations will have proceeded far enough by the end of this current year to make possible the assignment of a few titles to translators.

The Program is a temporary enterprise, not financed with the prospect of long life. It is to a certain extent experimental, undertaken rather to show that the task can be done, than to do it. It follows that, while all translations will be purchased at an adequate price, no arrangements can be made with translators which constitute anything like continuous employment. Moreover, unless one can translate almost immediately into almost distinguished English, the fees paid for translation afford but poor recompense for the time spent upon it, a fact which again makes it undesirable to organize the Program upon an employment basis.

These facts bring it about that the translator must be in

a position to accept the pleasure of participation in an important and useful social and cultural undertaking as part of his reward. Probably the most satisfactory results will come when someone who has used a particular title in his scholarly work is encouraged to put it into the form of a translation for publication, or from the collaboration of two persons, one in complete control of the language and the other for English style and control of the subject matter, for it must be emphasized that the end product must be published English at a fairly high stylistic level.

Our present hope is that we shall begin with an Arabic, a Turkish, and a Persian series. As an indication of the size of the operation contemplated we might add that we shall be happy if five works in each series can be started within the first year.

The author has been appointed by the Committee on Near Eastern Studies of the ACLS as chairman of a small committee to organize the enterprise and get it started. The other members are Edwin M. Wright, Jr. and Harold W. Glidden, both of Washington. All correspondence should be addressed to the Near Eastern Translation Program, American Council of Learned Societies, 1219 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

A list of titles which have been suggested by two or more persons has been prepared and may be obtained upon request. This list will at least give some indication of the scope of the enterprise; it is not to be expected that all of these works can be translated under the present program, though if the operation is successful enough to be followed by subsequent programs of the same type, substantial inroads will certainly be made on this list.

HUMAN RESOURCES IN THE HUMANITIES

Since the war there has been a growing interest in the national supply of highly trained personnel. This interest has been particularly lively in government agencies and departments concerned with national defense. Knowledge of our human resources, present and future, is, however, equally important to the normal development of government, business and industry, and to the educational, learned and professional worlds. A number of important investigations,

in which qualitative as well as quantitative considerations have been taken into account, have been conducted, including those directed by the Conference Board of the Associated Research Councils (American Council of Learned Societies, Social Science Research Council, American Council on Education, National Research Council). But at present, as well as in the past, such problems appear to have received greatest attention in the natural sciences, next in the social sciences, with the humanities comparably neglected.

The need for fuller information on many aspects of supply and demand of personnel in the humanities, their training, and their place in the future has been recognized by college and university administrators, if only in relation to the future of our academic institutions. But this need relates also to those of government, commerce, industry, and the general culture. The humanities require a far better knowledge of their strength and weaknesses, in terms of personnel, if they are to play their deserved and necessary part.

To help the ACLS obtain essential information regarding personnel problems in the humanities, Mr. J. F. Wellemeyer has been added to the staff as Staff Adviser on Personnel Studies. Mr. Wellemeyer, who received his education at the University of Kansas, American University, and the Graduate Institute for International Studies in Geneva, had served immediately before he came to the Council, in September, 1949, as a manpower specialist in the U.S. Employment Service, Federal Security Agency. He entered government service in 1937 and his duties in several government agencies regularly involved analysis and research in personnel and manpower problems. During his service in the Navy he was given related assignments, and following his return to inactive duty he was appointed a member of a commission to Japan to advise on labor and manpower problems. He therefore brings to the ACLS a very useful background of information and skill.

Dr. Charles E. Odegaard has been appointed the ACLS representative on the U.S. National Commission for UNESCO succeeding Dr. Waldo G. Leland, resigned. Dr. Odegaard's term will expire at the end of the annual meeting of the National Commission in 1952. Dr. Leland will continue on the Commission as a member at large.

PROBLEMS OF PUBLISHING

II. ON MANUSCRIPTS

By HENRY M. SILVER

Every editor is familiar with the problem of the contribution from an eminent European scholar. On the one hand he is delighted to get it. On the other, he knows from experience that the manuscript will more often than not be difficult to decipher, especially for the compositor, and that the galley proofs will return very freely corrected and changed. At times it seems as if the original manuscript had been nothing more than a first draft.

It is a natural desire to want to improve something. Words look different in type. Little infelicities, unnoticed in the manuscript, stand out clearly when set in type. In Europe the cost of alterations has in the past been much lower than in this country. But here, and now, it is one of the most expensive, wasteful, and, to the author, inexplicable, items on the printer's bill. It is not at all unusual to find scholarly books and periodicals which average a dollar a page an issue for alterations - one third to one quarter of the composition bill, and all of it down the drain.

The reason for the expense is that a printer's time has become very dear to buy; and alterations take a lot of time. The development of ultra-modern printing equipment, such as that used for pocket-size books, permits the printer to produce a great many copies in an hour, once he gets rolling; but no invention has appeared to make alterations in type easier or faster. The procedure has not changed a jot or tittle in half a century, except to get more expensive.

Suppose the galley proofs represent matter composed in Linotype Baskerville, eleven on thirteen, twenty-six picas wide. The proofs have been in the editor's hands for six weeks and have just been returned from him. Corrections are normal, perhaps one line in ten. Some were noted originally by the printer's reader; others are printer's errors not caught by the reader; but the majority are author's or editor's alterations.

What happens? First, someone looks over the galleys to

estimate the problems which may be contained therein, and to schedule the work. Then the galley corrections, and any new materials, are keyboarded on the composing machine. Perhaps this machine had previously been at work setting up Bodoni Book, ten on twelve, twenty-two picas wide. Now it must be adjusted, the new cases of matrices inserted, the old ones put away, the settings changed. Size by size this is done: text, quoted matter, and notes. The new metal is then proofed up and read to the corrected galleys - mistakes on mistakes are not unknown.

At this point the original type, which of course has not been sitting around on the tables for six weeks, is pulled from the racks and set out. An experienced man sets to work with the old type, the edited galley proofs, and the new type, to consolidate everything into one corrected whole. This involves putting out the old metal, either as type or slugs of type, and inserting the new. This takes time. The corrected metal is then either made up into pages, or new galley proofs are pulled.

Most of the misunderstandings which occur between printer and customer have to do with the cost of these corrections. It is, in truth, hard to explain since so much of it is relatively non-productive. The best thing to do is to avoid alterations as much as possible.

The way to accomplish this is to hand the printer a manuscript as near perfect as possible, one which is not only physically correct and easy, but also the final presentation of the author's thought. There is no use dwelling here on the proper typing of a manuscript; there are good manuals¹ on the subject. What might be emphasized more is the editor's role. It is his job to edit. If he finds that a manuscript which is otherwise quite acceptable for publication is nevertheless not ready for the printer, either because of faulty style or too great length, it will be cheaper in the long run to perform the emendations and then have it retyped. If he has not the means of doing this, the manuscript should be returned to the author. At this point a small hymn in praise of rubber stamps might not be out of place. If the printer's progress through the manuscript could be accelerated by

1. For example: Words into Type by Marjorie E. Skillin, et al. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc. \$5.00.

Printing and Promotion Handbook by Daniel Melcher and Nancy Larrick. New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., 1949. \$6.00.

A Manual of Style (1949 Revision). Chicago: University of Chicago Press. \$4.00.

firm marking and explicit labelling, and if the corrections on the proofs could be marked for origin, time and money can be saved.

Printers are accustomed to making estimates on the basis of clean manuscript. Often, however, they subsequently receive it some months later with a set or two of corrections, additions, and excisions all over it, not to speak of dialogue between editor and author in the margin. Since his typesetting will now take twenty per cent longer than the printer originally estimated, who can blame him if he puts a cushion into his next estimate?

That the cost of alterations can be controlled is shown by many examples. Over a period of fifteen years the average per page cost of alterations in the Bulletin of the Geological Society of America has been reduced from 65¢ to 15¢ (the practical minimum, since some alterations, such as cross-reference insertions, are unavoidable) by rigid control over the manuscript; nor has the Bulletin lost any authors in the process. Dr. Henry Aldrich, the editor, says "We have authors read their proof on the manuscript after the editing - with the understanding that they will read galleys but change nothing except flagrant errors of statement. Authors are given full knowledge of the procedure so that they may appreciate what is involved. This is not an imposed but a co-operative control jointly administered."

Mr. W. T. Couch, Director of The University of Chicago Press, in the effort to cut manufacturing costs, particularly in connection with scholarly works requiring subsidies, has made a number of book contracts providing for manuscript copy to be carefully edited in the proofroom of the Press, and then returned to the author for checking with the understanding that no corrections will be made in proofs varying from copy as approved unless the author is willing to pay for such corrections. The practice of editing articles for journals and returning them to authors for checking before setting type has been followed by the Press for many years. The policy of charging authors of journal articles for all corrections in proofs varying from copy as finally approved is now being instituted.

Miss Eugenia Porter, production manager of Columbia University Press, stated at the recent gathering of university presses that in her experience one of the great advantages of typewriter composition is the elimination of corrections. There is no proof due to the nature of process,

but only a master photo-retype.² While changes can be made, there is a powerful argument against them. She estimated that this might save as much as \$400 in the production of a directory now being undertaken by that press.

This is a lot of space to spend on author's alterations, but the subject deserves space. Let it be noted in closing that no printer makes money from alterations. Often he loses because he does not dare to charge for the full amount of time consumed in making them. Editors and authors interested in reducing their correction bills will have the printer's enthusiastic co-operation.

NEW TRANSLATIONS FROM THE RUSSIAN

The following are forthcoming volumes to be published by the Macmillan Company, 60 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, New York:

Economic Geography of the U.S.S.R., S.S. Balzac. Publication date: September 27, 1949. Price: \$10.00. Exhaustive study of Soviet natural resources and industrial potential. Eighty-four maps, fifty-three tables, special appendices, full bibliography, well-indexed.

Natural Regions of the U.S.S.R., L. S. Berg. Publication scheduled for November, 1949. Price: Probably \$10.00. Authoritative Soviet physical geography. Richly illustrated, twenty-three maps, comprehensive glossary, exhaustive index.

History of the Russian National Economy, P. I. Lyashchenko. Publication scheduled for November, 1949. Price: Probably \$13.00. The first work in any language that covers the economic history of Russia from earliest times down to the Revolution of 1917, this volume contains much material drawn from primary sources. Twenty-one historical maps.

Russian Folklore, Y. Sokolov. 1950 publication. Scholarly volume on early Russian and Soviet folklore, including texts of many bylinas and other materials.

2. A fast, reflex photo-copying machine is under construction which will, it is said, permit proofs to be made from photo-masters at a cost no greater than that for galley proofs. - HMS

The Current Soviet Thought Series, published by the Public Affairs Press, 2153 Florida Avenue, Washington, D.C., will shortly issue the following new titles:

Out of the Crocodile's Mouth: Russian cartoons about the United States, edited by William Nelson. Publication: October, 1949. Price: \$2.75. The Soviet view of life in America is vividly portrayed in this collection of drawings from The Crocodile, Moscow's humor magazine. Arranged by subject headings and supplemented by brief explanatory text, the cartoons are chiefly devoted to our economic institutions, social customs, cultural folkways, and foreign policies.

Industrial Management in the U.S.S.R., A. Arakelian. Publication: October, 1949. Price: Probably \$3.00. Published in Moscow in 1947, this is a revealing description of the managerial problems of Soviet industry.

FIRST-YEAR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

In the belief that serious loss of superior students who are competent to become good teachers in the humanities occurs between the undergraduate college and the graduate school, the ACLS has inaugurated an experimental fellowship program for first year graduate work. The major purpose of the program is to discover and recruit for scholarship and teaching outstanding students who otherwise might not continue their studies. In the administration of the fellowships particular, although not exclusive, attention is given to the smaller colleges and universities which do not award the doctorate. Applications are to be initiated only by university officers, after local screening of talent on the basis of qualifications defined by the ACLS. As the objective of the program is to recruit, the fellowships are not renewable; it is hoped that many of the fellows will receive subsequent assistance from the graduate schools they enter. Announcements and instructions will be sent to institutions during the present year in relation to awards to be given in the spring for 1950-1951. The following twenty-three awards, the first under this program, were made for the year 1949-1950:

Name	From	For Study at	Field
Barker, Stephen F.	Swarthmore	Harvard	Philosophy
Batz, John	U. of Pennsylvania	U. of Minnesota	American civilization
Brown, Marshall	U. of New Hampshire	Harvard	English literature
Cadbury, Warder H.	Haverford	Yale	Philosophy
Cates, William F.	Fordham	U. of North Carolina	English literature
Check, Richard K.	Brown	Brown	American civilization
Gallagher, Eugene B.	Lehigh	Harvard	Sociology and ethics
Greenberg, Moshe	U. of Pennsylvania	U. of Pennsylvania	Near East studies
Hopkinson, Maude L.	Barnard	Middlebury (Sorbonne)	French literature
Howe, Ray A.	Western Michigan	Harvard	European history
Johnson, James W.	Birmingham-Southern	Harvard	English literature
Lewis, Earl	Stanford	Columbia	English literature
McDonnell, Eugene	U. of Kentucky	Harvard	Comparative literature
MacFadyen, Blanche	N. J. Col. for Women	U. of Chicago	Philosophy
Manell, Herbert	Middlebury	Harvard	Russian history and literature
Mikulovsky, Zoya	Barnard	Radcliffe	Slavic literature
Naegele, Philipp O.	Queens	Yale	History of music
Nelson, Walter D.	Whitman	Columbia	European history
Peterson, H. Patricia	Mount Holyoke	U. of Chicago	Theory of music
Robinson, Sally	Grinnell	Brown	American civilization
Rooney, Eileen	Smith	New York U.	History of art
Ware, Katherine	Reed	U. of Cal. (Berkeley)	English folk literature
Wellman, Carl	U. of Arizona	Harvard	Philosophy

ACLS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

To secure expert assistance in furthering particular objectives the ACLS appoints and maintains a number of committees, the composition and purpose of which are reviewed annually by the Board of Directors. Committee members are normally appointed for a term of one year although they may be reappointed. The Board of Directors endeavors to maintain continuity in standing committees and at the same time to secure the assistance of new individuals by a gradual replacement of old members with new members.

In its meetings on July 6 and 7, 1949, the Board of Directors voted to continue the following committees until June 30, 1950 with the membership indicated:

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Secretary, D. H. Daugherty, Executive Offices, ACLS

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Einar Haugen, University of Wisconsin; Tomas Navarro Tomas, Columbia University; Otto Springer, University of Pennsylvania.

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COMMITTEE ON THE HISTORY OF RELIGIONS

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OCCUPIED AREAS

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Sterling Brown, Howard University; Paul Lewinson, The National Archives; Armistead S. Pride, Lincoln University; L. D. Reddick, Atlanta University; Eric Williams, Department of State; Donald Young, Russell Sage Foundation.

PACIFIC COAST COMMITTEE FOR THE HUMANITIES

Chairman, William A. Nitze, University of California
at Los Angeles

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ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE ON
SOUTHERN ASIA BY COUNCILS

The American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council have established a Joint Committee on Southern Asia for the purpose of appraising American studies relating to India, Pakistan and Southeast Asia and making plans for their further development.

The new Joint Committee is a successor to the former Committee on Indic and Iranian Studies of the ACLS. At first primarily humanistic in its orientation, the Indic and Iranian Committee later broadened its scope and membership in response to increased wartime and postwar interest in social science studies relating to India and its neighboring countries. As emphasis on social science projects continued to develop, the Committee recommended that it be replaced by a new group representing the SSRC as well as the ACLS.

At its organization meeting in April, 1949, the Joint Committee defined its sphere of concern to include both the humanities and the social sciences. Its range of interest covers ancient and modern languages and literatures, art, archaeology, philosophy, history, political science, geography, economics, sociology and anthropology. Southern Asia is understood as the area from the Pamirs to the Pacific, comprising Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Ceylon, Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Malaya, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

The Committee held its second meeting in New York on September 18th. Its principal business was the planning of

an expanded meeting or conference during the Thanksgiving holidays. It is hoped that fifty or more interested scholars will attend to present a conspectus of the present state of South Asian studies in the United States and to discuss steps to be taken in the development of greater American concern with and participation in these studies. The aim is to arrive at a program for training both in America and in the field, and for creating the conditions under which research and study can be expanded to meet American needs.

Members of the Joint Committee for 1949-50 are W. Norman Brown, University of Pennsylvania, chairman; Kingsley Davis, Columbia University; Franklin Edgerton, Yale; John F. Embree, Yale; Holden Furber, Pennsylvania; David G. Mandelbaum, University of California, with Murray B. Emeneau as alternate; Horace I. Poleman, Library of Congress; and Lauriston Sharp, Cornell University, with Morris E. Opler as alternate. Scholars or other persons desiring to bring any matter to the attention of the Joint Committee may address communications to Alice Thorner, Executive Secretary, Box 17, Bennett Hall, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania.

A Note About This Issue

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